IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Withdrawn): An organic electroluminescent image display apparatus comprising: at least a substrate; and an anode layer, organic layer, barrier conductive layer having optical transparency, and cathode layer having the optical transparency successively disposed on the substrate, the barrier conductive layer being a thin film including at least one of a metal, inorganic nitride, and inorganic oxide formed by a vacuum film forming method in which oxygen is not introduced in a film forming step.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the barrier conductive layer has a moisture-vapor transmission rate of 1 $g/m^2/day$ or less, an oxygen transmission rate of 1 $cc/m^2/day \cdot atm$ or less, a specific resistance of $1.0x10^{-2}\Omega \cdot cm$ or less, and an optical transparency of 30% or more in a visible region of 380 to 780 nm.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the barrier conductive layer is a thin film formed of the metal, the metal is at least one of metals having a work function of 4.2 eV or more or an alloy of these metals, and a thickness of the barrier conductive layer is in a range of 10 to 50 nm.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the barrier conductive layer is a thin film formed of inorganic nitride, the inorganic nitride is at least one of nitrides of elements belonging to group 4 of a periodic table, and the thickness of the barrier conductive layer is in a range of 10 to 500 nm.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the cathode layer is constituted of a conductive oxide, and has a thickness in a range of 10 to 500 nm, and an optical transparency in a visible region of 380 to 780 nm is 60% or more.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the anode layer comprises at least one of materials included in a group consisting of at least one of metals having a work function of 4.7 eV or more, an alloy of these metals and conductive inorganic oxides.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the anode layer includes a structure in which a layer formed of the metal or alloy and a layer formed of the conductive inorganic oxide are stacked in order from the substrate side and has a reflectivity.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the anode layer comprises the metal or alloy and has the reflectivity.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a sheet resistance of the cathode layer including the barrier conductive layer is 20 Ω/ or less.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a sheet resistance of the anode layer is 1 Ω/ or less.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is any one of a glass substrate, silicon substrate, and polymeric film.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An organic electroluminescent image display apparatus comprising: at least a substrate; and an anode layer, an organic layer, a first cathode layer having optical transparency, an electron transport protective layer having ~~the~~ optical transparency, and a second cathode layer having ~~the~~ optical transparency successively disposed on the substrate, the electron transport protective layer ~~containing~~ comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal and~~/or~~ an alkali earth metal in a electron transporting organic material.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first cathode layer comprises ~~the~~ at least one selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal and~~/or the~~ an alkali earth metal, and the second cathode layer comprises at least one ~~of~~ selected from the group consisting of an inorganic oxide and an inorganic nitride.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the at least one alkali metal and~~/or the~~ alkali earth metal ~~constituting~~ comprising the first cathode layer is of the same type as that of the at least one alkali metal and~~/or the~~ alkali earth metal contained in the electron transport protective layer.

Claim 15 (Original): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein a thickness of the first cathode layer is in a range of 0.1 to 10 nm, and a thickness of the electron transport protective layer is in a range of 3 to 300 nm.

Claim 16 (Original): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the anode layer comprises a metal or an inorganic oxide which has a specific resistance of $1.0x10^{-3}\Omega$•cm or less.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein a mol ratio of the electron transporting organic material and the at least one alkali metal and~~/or the~~ alkali earth metal ~~constituting~~ comprising the electron transport protective layer is in a range of 1:1 to 1:3.

Claim 18 (Original): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the second cathode layer is formed by a vacuum film forming method in which oxygen is not introduced in a film forming step.

Claim 19 (Original): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the second cathode layer is formed by a sputtering method using an argon gas having an oxygen content volume ratio of 1/300 or less as a sputter gas in a film forming step.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the substrate is any one ~~of~~ selected from the group consisting of a glass substrate, a silicon substrate, and a polymeric film.

Claim 21 (New): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 15, wherein a thickness of the electron transport protective layer is in a range of 10 to 100 nm.

Claim 22 (New): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein a mol ratio of the electron transporting organic material and the at least one alkali metal and alkali earth metal is in a range of 1:1 to 1:2.

Claim 23 (New): The organic electroluminescent image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the electron transporting organic material is bathocuproine (BCP) or bathophenanthroline (Bphen).

SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENTS

The amendments to Claims 12-14, 17 and 20 are formal in nature, and address the rejections made under 35 U.S.C. 112. New Claims 21-23 are supported throughout the specification. See, for example, page 27 of the specification translation. No new matter has been entered.